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Selective laser spectroscopy of Mn^{4+} - Mn^{4+} pair centers in SrTiO_3 crystal

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Abstract

Zero-phonon lines of a pair center of Mn^{4+} ions are observed in the luminescence and luminescence-excitation spectra of $\text{SrTiO}_3\text{:Mn}$ crystal. Based on the experimental data, the energy-level structure of the ground state $|4 A_{2g}, 4 A_{2g}\rangle$ and excited state $|4 A_{2g}, 2 E_g\rangle$ of the Mn^{4+} - Mn^{4+} pair center is constructed. It is shown that the exchange interaction in the ground state of the Mn^{4+} - Mn^{4+} pair is antiferromagnetic. Energies of the levels are calculated assuming that the pair is formed by Mn^{4+} ions occupying neighboring octahedral positions of Ti^{4+} ions along the $[110]$ axis. Experimental values of the exchange integral in the ground state $|4 A_{2g}, 4 A_{2g}\rangle$ and energies of spin multiplets in the excited state $|4 A_{2g}, 2 E_g\rangle$ agree well with calculation of the exchange interaction carried out within the framework of the channel model with the parameters $J_{\xi\eta} = 32 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $J_{\zeta\zeta} = -45.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. Experimental data and calculations unambiguously demonstrate that zero-phonon lines in the luminescence and luminescence-excitation spectra have magnetic-dipole nature. © 2014 Pleiades Publishing, Ltd.

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